



Resolution No. 2016R-043

City of Minneapolis

File No. 16-00002

By Reich

Approving the preliminary design plans for the route of the Blue Line Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project Extension within the City of Minneapolis.

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension will be constructed and operated by the Metropolitan Council and will serve Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Robbinsdale, Golden Valley, and Minneapolis; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has been a strong advocate for increased investments in transit and has been a reliable regional partner in advancing a multimodal transit system; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, the Community Advisory Committee, the Business Advisory Committee, and Metropolitan Council have held numerous open houses, design charrettes, and public hearings to inform and engage the community resulting in mostly supportive comments toward the project; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis has worked cooperatively with the Metropolitan Council, Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), and Hennepin County through the Issue Resolution Team process to resolve many of the technical comments and concerns the City of Minneapolis raised during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) phase of the project; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis, through the Hennepin County Community Works process, has identified significant transit-oriented development potential along this line; and

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension will improve mobility for all modes including non-motorized users, especially given that there is a high percentage of zero car households within this travelshed; and

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension will provide direct access for residents to regional amenities such as Theodore Wirth Park which is part of the Minneapolis Grand Rounds; and

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension will allow for convenient access to regional destinations such as Downtown Minneapolis, Downtown St. Paul, the University of Minnesota campus, the Mall of America, and the Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP) Airport; and

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension supports and advances the goals and objectives outlined in the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan for Sustainable Growth in addition to Access Minneapolis, and

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension will provide better transit service to neighborhoods with a high percentage of minorities; and

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension has the potential to help raise incomes along the corridor by providing better access to jobs and educational opportunities within the region; and

Whereas, the Blue Line Extension will result in over a billion dollars in infrastructure investments that will benefit the local and regional construction industry; and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Council, through its scope and budget, has proposed to construct stations at Van White Blvd, Penn Ave, Plymouth Ave, and Golden Valley Rd; and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Council, through its scope and budget, in coordination with MnDOT, has proposed to reconstruct Olson Memorial Highway within the city with a 35 mph speed limit, with improved pedestrian accommodations, and with improved roadway infrastructure; and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Council and MnDOT have demonstrated the willingness to work with the City of Minneapolis on livability issues such as noise mitigation, visual quality, and context sensitive design after the physical design has been approved;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis approves the preliminary design plans for the route of the Blue Line Light Rail Transit Extension Project that were submitted to the City by the Metropolitan Council in order to fulfill the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 473.3994, Subd. 3.

Committee: TPW Public Hearing: 2/2/2016 Publication: 2/20/2016

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE				
MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
REICH	X			
GORDON		X		
FREY	X			
B. JOHNSON	X			
YANG		X		
WARSAME	X			
GOODMAN	X			
GLIDDEN	X			
CANO		X		
BENDER				X
QUINCY	X			
A. JOHNSON	X			
PALMISANO	X			
DATE:	FEB 12 2016			

☒ APPROVED ☐ VETOED

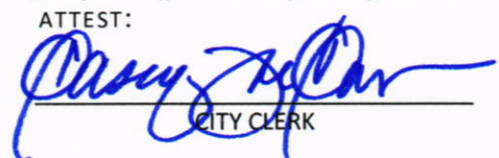

MAYOR HODGES

FEB 13 2016

DATE

Certified an official action of the City Council

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

Presented to the Mayor:

FEB 12 2016

Received from the Mayor:

FEB 16 2016